

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/561,542
Reply to OA dated July 19, 2010

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An electric toothbrush in which brushing is enabled by back-and-forth linear movement of a tufted portion in only a longitudinal direction of a replaceable brush, wherein the distance (mm) of movement of the tufted portion is set in the range of 0.5 - 3mm, the frequency (times) of back-and-forth motion of the tufted portion per minute is set in the range of 2000 - 11,000, and the product of the distance (mm) of movement of the tufted portion and the frequency (times) of back-and-forth motion per minute is set in the range of 5000 - 7000.

Claims 2 -6 (Canceled)

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The electric toothbrush according to claim 1, wherein filaments in which tip portions of at least 30% or more of all tufted filaments are split into a plurality of portions are used.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The electric toothbrush according to claim 1, wherein a DC electric motor is used as means for moving said tufted portion.

Claims 9 -20 (Canceled)